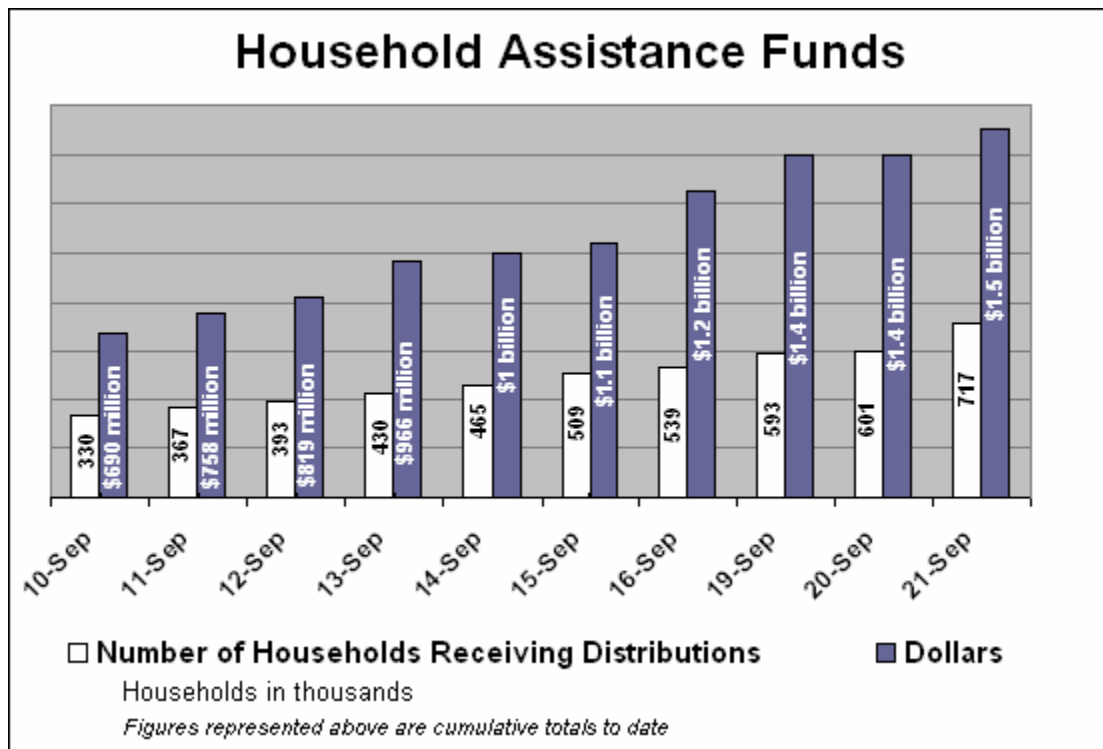


Press Release

September 21, 2005

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT RESPONSE AND RECOVERY TO THE AFTERMATH OF HURRICANE KATRINA

Federal support to state and local officials, volunteer organizations, victims and their families who have been devastated by Hurricane Katrina continues around the clock in an effort to provide recovery support to those affected by this unprecedented natural disaster. Federal assistance to households will help them get on the road to recovery. The following facts provide an update to some of the important activities and approximate numbers as of 12 p.m. EDT:



- The DHS Office for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties is working with federal partners and other organizations to provide health, medical and other assistance for evacuees with disabilities. The group has coordinated the provision of over 100 wheelchairs to evacuees in the Houston area; helped the Centers for Medicaid

and Medicare Systems issue guidance to pharmacies about dispensing prescriptions to out-of-state requestors; and arranged for truckloads of durable medical equipment to be delivered to the region.

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